Why We Did This Review

The financial system processes data used to make critical financial and operational decisions affecting the County. It processes over 2 million transactions annually, totaling nearly $15 billion.

This audit was done to review the system's security, accuracy, and reliability. We focused on the following areas:

- Data transmission security
- Incompatible duties
- Vendor monitoring

These areas were selected because they had not undergone consistent reviews by other parties.

What We Recommend

We recommended improvements in the following areas:

- Data transmission security
- Segregation of duties: user access approvals
- Vendor oversight

County Financial System

The system appears to be reliable and accurate; security over a few areas could be improved
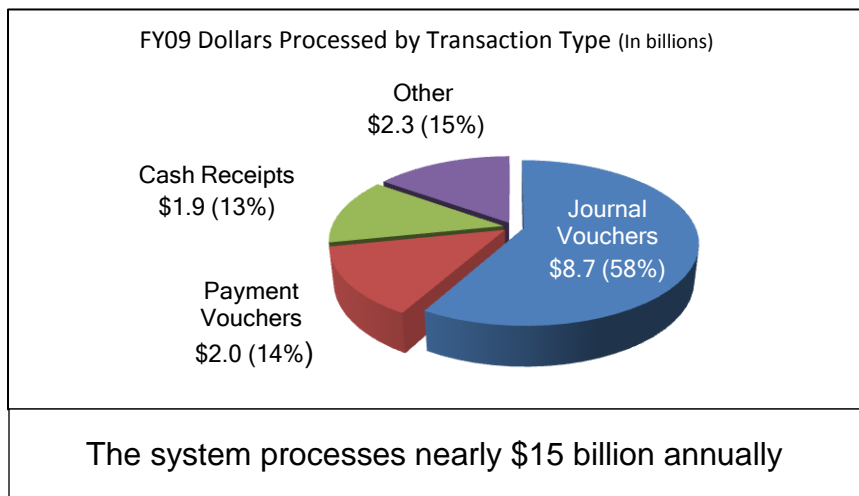
What We Found

We did not find any instances where the financial system processed data inaccurately. We did, however, find a few security weaknesses which were reported to management.

The system is reviewed regularly; the following internal and external reviews provide assurance that controls are working and that the system is reliable and accurate.

Agency	Financial System Audit Work
Arizona State Auditor General (AG)	General and application controls tested annually as part of the AG's audit of the County's financial statements
Maricopa County Internal Audit	Two prior financial system application reviews were performed; fifteen recent audits validated data processed by the system
MC Office of Enterprise Technology (OET)	During a recent upgrade, OET tested data accuracy
Contracted Vendor (provides application support/host services)	A Certified Public Accountant reviews internal controls annually

The County recently performed a significant upgrade and implemented a contractual agreement extending the viability of the financial system.

The County's Office of Enterprise Technology continues to assess system viability every two years.

FY09 Dollars Processed by Transaction Type (In billions)

Other $2.3 (15%)
Cash Receipts $1.9 (13%)
Journal Vouchers $8.7 (58%)
Payment Vouchers $2.0 (14%)

The system processes nearly $15 billion annually